Case 3119

VACHONIAINAE Maury, 1973 (Arachnida, Scorpiones): proposed conservation as the correct spelling to remove homonymy with VACHONIIDAE Chamberlin, 1947 (Arachnida, Pseudoscorpiones)

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to remove the homonymy between two arachnid family-group names, VACHONIIDAE Chamberlin, 1947 (Pseudoscorpiones; type genus *Vachonium* Chamberlin, 1947) and VACHONIINAE Maury, 1973 (Scorpiones; type genus *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954). It is proposed that the entire generic name of *Vachonia* should be adopted as the stem, so that the correct spelling of the scorpion subfamily name will be VACHONIAINAE Maury, 1973.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; Pseudoscorpiones; Scorpiones; BOTHRIURIDAE; VACHONIAINAE; VACHONIIDAE; *Vachonia*; *Vachonium*.

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1. Chamberlin (1947, p. 3) based the pseudoscorpion family VACHONIIDAE on his simultaneously established nominal genus *Vachonium* (p. 4; type species *Vachonium boneti* Chamberlin, 1947 (p. 6) by original designation). This family is in general use, and currently includes two genera and 12 species (Harvey, 1990).

2. Maury (1973, p. 30) published the scorpion subfamily name VACHONIANINAE [sic], based on *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954 (p. 119, type species *Vachonia martinezi* Abalos, 1954 (p. 120) by original designation, family BOTHRIURIDAE Simon, 1880). Like *Vachonium*, *Vachonia* was derived from the name of the French arachnologist Max Vachon (1908 1991). The name VACHONIANINAE is an incorrect original spelling of VACHONIINAE, since under the Code (Article 29.3 of the 1999 edition) the grammatical stem of *Vachonia* is Vachoni- and not Vachonian-. However, VACHONIINAE cannot be used for a scorpion taxon because (with change of suffix) it is a junior homonym of the pseudoscorpion name VACHONIIDAE Chamberlin, 1947 (para. 1 above). Maury's name has been used (Francke, 1982; Sissom, 1990); although at subfamily rank it has recently been synonymized with the nominotypical subfamily BOTHRIURINAE by Maury himself (Acosta & Maury, 1998, p. 559; see also Lowe, 2000), elimination of the homonymy is necessary for use at any rank (such as tribe) and the case is referred to the Commission for a ruling under Article 55.3. In accordance with Recommendation 29A of the Code we propose that the entire generic name *Vachonia* should be used as the grammatical stem, so that Maury's

name should be spelled VACHONIAINAE and thus not be a junior homonym of VACHONIIDAE Chamberlin.

3. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to rule that for purposes of Article 55·3·1 of the Code the stem of the generic name *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954 (Arachnida, Scorpiones) is VACHONIA-;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954 (gender: feminine), type species *Vachonia martinezi* Abalos, 1954 by original designation;
  (b) *Vachonium* Chamberlin, 1947 (gender: neuter), type species *Vachonium boneti* Chamberlin, 1947 by original designation;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) *martinezi* Abalos, 1954, as published in the binomen *Vachonia martinezi* (specific name of the type species of *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954);
  (b) *boneti* Chamberlin, 1947, as published in the binomen *Vachonium boneti* (specific name of the type species of *Vachonium* Chamberlin, 1947);

(4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) VACHONIAINAE Maury, 1973 (type genus *Vachonia* Abalos, 1954 (correct spelling of VACHONIANINAE by the ruling in (1) above);
  (b) VACHONIIDAE Chamberlin, 1947 (type genus *Vachonium* Chamberlin, 1947);

(5) to place on the Offical Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name VACHONIANINAE Maury, 1973 (an incorrect original spelling of VACHONIAINAE).

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Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., c/o The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).